CLAIMS

1. An agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction comprising, as an active ingredient, a xanthine derivative represented by formula (I):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^1 & R^3 \\
\hline
R^1 & N \\
\hline
N & R^4
\end{array}$$
(I)

[wherein

5

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R¹, R² and R³ are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl or lower alkynyl;

 R^4 represents cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_n-R^5$ (wherein R^5 represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or a unsubstituted heterocyclic group; and n represents an integer of 0 to 4) or a group represented by formula (II):

$$Y^1$$
 Z
 Y^2
(II)

(wherein Y¹ and Y² are the same or different, and represent a 15 hydrogen atom, halogen or lower alkyl; and Z represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group);

 X^1 and X^2 are the same or different, and represent an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom]

- 20 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
 - 2. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to claim 1, wherein X^1 and X^2 each is an oxygen atom.

3. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein R^4 is a group represented by formula (II):

$$Y^1$$
 Z
 Y^2
(II)

- 5 (wherein Y^1 , Y^2 and Z each have the same meanings as defined above).
 - 4. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to claim 3, wherein Y^1 and Y^2 are both hydrogen atoms.
- 5. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to claim 3 or 4, wherein Z is substituted or unsubstituted aryl or a group represented by formula (III):

$$\begin{array}{c}
O \\ (CH_2)_m \\
O \\
O \\
\end{array}$$
(III)

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(wherein R⁶ represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, nitro or amino; and m represents an integer of 1 to 3).

- 6. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the higher brain dysfunction is a higher brain dysfunction caused by brain injury.
- 7. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to claim 6, wherein the brain injury is a brain injury due to aging.
- 8. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to claim 6, wherein the brain injury is

a brain injury due to a disorder selected from the group consisting of head trauma and cerebrovascular accident.

- 9. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the higher brain dysfunction is an impairment of higher brain function selected from the group consisting of memory, thinking, recognition, action and learning.
- 10. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the higher brain dysfunction is a brain dysfunction selected from the group consisting of agnosia, amnesia and apraxia.
- 11. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the higher brain dysfunction is a memory impairment.
- 12. The agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the higher brain dysfunction is a learning impairment.
- 13. A method for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction which comprises administering an effective amount of a xanthine derivative represented by formula (I):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^1 & R^3 \\
\hline
 & N \\
 & N \\
\hline
 & N \\
 & N
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^4 \\
R^2
\end{array}$$
(I)

10

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[wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , X^1 and X^2 each have the same meanings as defined above]

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. Use of a xanthine derivative represented by formula (I):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R^1 & R^3 \\
\hline
 & N \\
\hline
 & N \\
\hline
 & N
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^4 \\
\hline
 & R^2
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^3 \\
\hline
 & N
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
R^4 \\
\hline
 & R^2
\end{array}$$

[wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , X^1 and X^2 each have the same meanings as defined above]

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for the manufacture of an agent for preventing and/or treating higher brain dysfunction.